

General Management Plan
(text only)

Development Concept Plan
Environmental Assessment

Charles Pinckney National Historic Site
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina

March 1994

U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Southeast Regional Office

Summary

Charles Pinckney National Historic Site was established by Congress to provide for the interpretation of the life of Charles Pinckney, his home Snee Farm, and the history of the United States as a young Nation. A community-based effort, led by the Friends of Historic Snee Farm, resulted in the congressional action to preserve the site. As required by Public Law 100-421, the National Park Service (NPS) has prepared this General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan/Environmental Assessment (GMP/DCP/EA) to support the objectives for which the park was established. Furthermore, the purpose of this plan is to establish and guide the overall management, development, and use of the park in ways that will best serve visitors while preserving the historic resources. An interpretive prospectus and historical overview of Charles Pinckney and Snee Farm supplement this plan.

The Draft GMP/DCP/EA was distributed in March 1994. That plan described three alternatives for managing the park and assessed the environmental impact of implementing the three alternatives. The public review and comment period was 30 days. The absence of Pinckney-related structures and landscapes prompted the NPS in planning to focus on exploring archeological resources and other sources of information to tell the Pinckney and Snee Farm stories.

Three alternatives for future management and use of the park were analyzed in the document. The alternatives ranged from proposing basic operations with minimal development and interpretive materials to implementing a more comprehensive outreach and educational program in meeting the objectives for the park. All alternatives shared the objective of utilizing archeological data to interpret the site. They were distinguished by the extent to which this information was conveyed. The alternatives were also dedicated to preserving the park while continuing to provide for visitor understanding and appreciation of the park's resources and the stories they told. After public review and comment on the draft plan, the NPS Regional Office chose alternative three as the approved plan for future management and operation of the park. This alternative addresses the visitor's experience, the protection of cultural and natural resources, and educational and community outreach programs in the most satisfying and cost-effective manner of the three alternatives.

In the approved plan, visitors will enter the site via a new entrance drive and parking area in the northeast corner of the site. They will be greeted at a small, staffed orientation shelter nearby where general exhibits will be housed. Self-guiding visitor experiences include a defined trail system with waysides that will interpret both the archeological discoveries at Snee Farm and the landscape history of the site.

The house at Snee Farm will be adapted for administrative and interpretive purposes. Exhibits on the *Constitution* and the archeological discoveries will complement a more detailed interpretation of the site and its significance. A Pinckney "Reading Room" for students and scholars to learn more about Charles Pinckney will also be made available in the house. In addition, the house will provide room for the sale of educational materials.

The approved plan emphasizes interpretation on the site through personal services and an extensive outreach program that will involve cooperating groups and volunteers from the community. Parts of the outreach program will include scheduled tours, special-topics interpretation (e.g., 18th-century colonial slavery or rice and indigo cultivation) and specific archeological interpretation from ongoing investigations at Snee Farm. Local school systems will benefit from the development of special studies to assist students in their understanding of Pinckney's role in framing the *Constitution*.

Overall, the plan will not have an adverse effect on the resources of the park. The caretaker's house, already in poor condition is recommended for removal. Other structures will be preserved and slightly modified for reuse. Impacts on the natural resources include a 25-car, 3-bus parking area, and construction of a curatorial facility near the parking area. These new facilities will be located to minimize adverse impacts and to preserve the existing natural environment. Pinckney archeological resources take precedence over vegetation and structures.

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A Vision for the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site

The early years of the South Carolina lowcountry represented a microcosm for events occurring in the new Republic. In 1776, the signers of the *Declaration of Independence* heralded the formation of the United States. By the mid-1780s, the new Nation's government experienced growing pains and statesmen realized the need to restructure the foundation of the fledgling government. Charles Pinckney, a native and leader of the South Carolina lowcountry, was one of the men to mold and shape this structure into the *Constitution*.

Snee Farm, Pinckney's coastal plantation, offers an opportunity to interpret the cultural environment that influenced Pinckney and his contributions to the framing of the *Constitution*, and is an important element in the understanding of the first 30 to 40 years of the United States as a young Nation.

Although the extant structures and landscape at Snee Farm primarily reflect occupation of the site since Pinckney's sale of the property in 1817, the standing plantation house represents an important vernacular building tradition, reflective, from the archeological and historical record, of the traditional South Carolina plantation house of the mid-18th to the mid-19th century. With the house as a backdrop, the NPS will emphasize, however, archeological investigations to determine important clues about Pinckney's particular lifestyle at Snee Farm.

Archeological discoveries will help to unravel the story of Snee Farm during the late-18th century to early 19th century, and will guide the park in molding the grounds to reflect the character of a South Carolina coastal plantation. When possible, the NPS will use the extant structures to this end. However, the Pinckney archeological resources will take precedence over other landscape and structural features.

Presenting the story of Charles Pinckney and Snee Farm, with a strong emphasis on continuing archeological and historical investigations to unearth and interpret these stories, is the primary challenge in planning the future development of the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site. As new information about Snee Farm is uncovered, the NPS may modify park planning and programming documents to ensure continuing accurate presentations of the Pinckney story.

Significance

Introduction

Snee Farm was a plantation home of Charles Pinckney (1757-1824), an important national and South Carolina political figure in the early years of the American Republic. Pinckney's roles in establishing the new national government under the *Constitution* and founding and leading the Jeffersonian Republican Party in South Carolina made him a significant member of the founding generation of politicians in the United States.

In establishing the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site, Congress directed the Secretary of the Interior to preserve and interpret Snee Farm, interpret the life of Charles Pinckney, and present the early history of the United States (Public Law 100-421). The period of significance for the site extends from the 1750s to the 1820s, which includes the life of Charles Pinckney and the period in which Snee Farm was in Pinckney family ownership.

Charles Pinckney's Contributions to the New Nation

Charles Pinckney's life is significant in American history because of his contributions to the framing of the *U.S. Constitution*. In 1783, Pinckney published three pamphlets that argued for amending the *Articles of Confederation*. His efforts in the Continental Congress from 1784 through 1787 gave him a national reputation and led to his subsequent work during the Constitutional Convention of 1787.

Pinckney's speech to the Constitutional Convention on June 25, 1787, was significant for its American tone. Francis Thorpe (1901) in his *Constitutional History of the United States* writes how "Pinckney brought the mind of the Convention back to America and emphasized the unique situation of its people. He would not break with the past, yet would found a government adapted to the needs and wants of a new country and a new Nation."

Pinckney's speech at the Convention, taken from Farrand (1937) in *The Records of the Federal Convention of 1787*, includes the following remarks about his fellow citizens:

Among them there are fewer distinctions of fortune & less of rank, than among the inhabitants of any other nation. Every freeman has a right to the same protection & security... Our true situation appears to me to be this – a new extensive Country containing within itself the materials for forming a Government capable of extending to its citizens all the blessings of civil and religious liberty – capable of making them happy at home. This is the great end of Republican Establishments... Our government must be made suitable to the people, and we are perhaps the only people in the world who ever had sense enough to appoint delegates to establish a general government.

Madison's notes from the Convention indicate that Pinckney presented his "draught of a federal Government which he had prepared to be agreed upon between the free and independent states of America. Mr. P[']s plan ordered that the same be referred to the Committee of the whole appointed to consider the state of the American Union."

Constitutional historians state that of the four plans presented to the convention, only those of Alexander Hamilton and Charles Pinckney were formulated before the Convention met. Thomas Johnson (1966) in *The Oxford Companion to American History* attributes the following significant provisions to Pinckney:

Article I, Section 2, clause 5: *The House of Representatives shall chuse [sic] their Speaker and other Officers; and shall have the sole power of Impeachment.*

Article I, Section 8, clause 3: *The Congress shall have power,... To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among several States, and with the Indian Tribes.*

Article I, Section 8, clause 4: *The Congress shall have power,... To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States.*

Article, IV, Section 2: *The citizens of each State shall be entitled to all Privileges and Immunities of Citizens in the several States.*

Article VI, Section 3: *...no religious Test shall ever be required as a Qualification to any Office or public Trust under the United States.*

Pinckney's Republicanism

Pinckney was the founder of the Jeffersonian Republican Party in South Carolina and upheld its principles for almost 30 years. When two national political parties were formed in the 1790s on the basis of opposing ideas of Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson, two members of President George Washington's cabinet, Charles Pinckney moved into the Jeffersonian Republican camp. Republican philosophy was grounded in confidence in majority rule, suspicion of Britain, and commitment to American agrarianism, the promotion of individual liberties, and opportunities for advancement. Pinckney's consistent support for free public education exemplified his Republican principles. While most of the South Carolina lowcountry aristocracy, including his second cousins, Charles Cotesworth Pinckney and Thomas Pinckney, were staunch Federalists, Pinckney allied himself with the upcountry farmers and planters, who were overwhelmingly Republican.

In 1800, as State party leader, Pinckney directed Thomas Jefferson's successful presidential campaign in South Carolina. His reward was appointment as United States Minister to Spain. Pinckney served in Madrid from 1801 to 1805, during a period of

conflict between France and its ally, Spain, and much of the rest of Europe. Pinckney was unable to obtain West Florida from the Spanish government which was angry over France's 1803 decision to sell Louisiana to the United States just 3 years after Spain was forced to cede that territory to France.

After Pinckney's return to South Carolina in 1806, he increasingly emphasized the protection of southern interests and states' rights. In contrast to his outlook in the 1780s, when he saw chaos looming as a result of the weakness of the Federal Government, Pinckney sought in later years to restrain the Federal Government from unwarranted interference with the states. He especially feared that northern commercial and financial interests would dominate the national government to the detriment of the South, whose economy depended on agriculture and slavery. Pinckney's views foreshadowed those of John C. Calhoun and others who would assert the right of a state to nullify a national law or secede from the Union. These differences between the North and South and the breakdown of the Nation's political system resulted in the Civil War.

Pinckney's last major speech, delivered in the U.S. Congress in 1820, was a passionate defense of the balance of sectional interests embodied in the *Constitution* that he helped draft.

Archeological Resources at Snee Farm

The wealth of elite South Carolina lowcountry families was reflected in their numerous plantations. Unlike their counterparts in Virginia, however, these families also owned houses in Charleston and frequently moved from town to plantation and back, depending on the season. Snee farm, a favorite "country seat," was among the many properties owned by the Pinckneys. Purchased by his father in 1754, the 715-acre estate was inherited by Pinckney in 1782. President George Washington visited the site in 1791 while touring the southern states.

Often an absentee landlord while serving his country here and abroad, Pinckney was forced to sell Snee Farm in 1817 to satisfy his debts. The property had been greatly mismanaged during his absence and had diminished in value. Today, only 28 of the 715 acres remain essentially undeveloped. The extant house, built in the early 19th century, probably replaced the Pinckney home.

Two facets of national archeological significance are presently identified with Charles Pinckney's Snee Farm. The first is the demonstrated association between *in situ* archeological deposits and Charles Pinckney and his family during the 18th and early 19th centuries. Some of these deposits include a detached kitchen, a possible privy, possible remains of the Pinckney main plantation house, and a slave village. The second facet of significance lies in the potential contribution the site can make to the subdisciplines of plantation and slave archeology. The farm contains impressive 18th- and 19th-century remains as well as 19th- and 20th-century deposits. Such a large, comprehensive collection

offers a unique opportunity for extensive research from the beginning of the new Nation to the present.

Topics of Significance

The NPS has identified significant topics relating to natural and cultural resources that help determine the national significance of any NPS area. These topics are listed in outline as they appear in the History and Prehistory in the National Park System and the National Park System and the Nation Historic Landmarks Program (NPS 1987). The NPS has identified the following topics that are relevant to Charles Pinckney National Historic Site and that further attest to the national significance of the site:

II. European Colonial Exploration and Settlement

C. English Exploration and Settlement

7. Settlement of the Carolinas

III. Development of the English Colonies, 1688-1763

A. Physical Development

1. Growth of Urban Areas and Previous Settlements

IV. The American Revolution

D. War in the South

V. Political and Military Affairs, 1783-1789

A. Confederation Period, 1783-1789

B. The *Constitution*

C. Early Federal Period, 1789-1800

D. Jeffersonian Period, 1800-1811

E. War of 1812, 1812-1815

F. Post-War Nationalism, 1816-1859

XI. Agriculture

A. Era of Adaptation, 1607-1763

B. Plantation Agriculture, 1607-1763

C. Era of Subsistence Agriculture, 1763-1820

XVI. Architecture

X. Vernacular Architecture

XXX. American Ways of Life

A. Slavery and Plantation Life

B. Farming Communities

Purpose and Need for the Plan

To provide for the benefit, inspiration, and education of the American people, Congress established, by Public Law 100-421, the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site in the State of South Carolina on September 8, 1988.

In administering the historic site, the Secretary was authorized to:

- Provide the interpretation of the life of Charles Pinckney.
- Preserve and interpret Snee Farm, home of Charles Pinckney.
- Present the history of the United States as a young Nation.

The establishing Act specified that a general management plan (GMP) would be prepared for the use and development of the historic site. Such a plan would identify appropriate facilities for proper interpretation of the site for visitors.

A general management plan sets forth the basic management philosophy for a park and provides the strategies for addressing issues and achieving identified management objectives over a 5- to 10-year period. Two types of strategies are presented in the GMP: those required to manage properly the park's resources and those required to provide for appropriate visitor use and interpretation of the resources. Based on these strategies, programs, actions, and support facilities necessary for efficient park operation and visitor use are identified. In addition, plans must be consistent with NPS Management Policies; be in compliance with legislative and executive requirements; reflect resource limitations, visitor safety considerations, and budgetary constraints; and recognize the concern expressed by the public and other agencies during planning efforts.

Location and Description of the Resource

The Charles Pinckney National Historic Site is located in Charleston County in southeast South Carolina. Established in 1988, the site was acquired by the National Park Service in 1990 and as of 1993 was not yet opened to the public.

The site is approximately one-half mile west of U.S. Highway 17 and is situated within the corporate limits of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. This 28-acre site consists of only a small portion of the original 715-acre plantation. Despite its relatively small size, the park setting provides a glimpse of its historic rural character.

The remaining 687 acres of the original plantation were developed into residential subdivisions during the 1970s and 1980s. Snee Farm Country Club, Snee Farm subdivision, and Rice Planters Point subdivision adjoin the present south, east, and west property lines, respectively. The north side of the property is bordered by historic, two-lane Long Point Road and the agricultural land (not in production) of Boone Hall Plantation.

Two entrances exist on the site – a central dirt drive enters the property from Long Point Road on the north and leads south toward the house. Another entrance, located near the wetlands in the northwest corner of the site, leads to the barn area from Long Point Road. Centrally located on the property, the house at Snee Farm dates from the early 1800s and may have been built by subsequent owners Francis Gottier Deliesseline or William Mathews. Two flanking wings were added to the east and west sides of the house during the 1930s. The original portion of the house is a comparatively rare example of 19th-century lowcountry architecture. This portion and the flanking wings are in excellent condition.

Three other structures are found on the site: a caretaker's house, a barn, and a corn crib, all of which were built between 1936 and 1945. A capped well, dating perhaps to the 19th century, is located west of the house at Snee Farm. To the east is a cenotaph honoring Colonel Charles Pinckney (Charles Pinckney's father).

Other landscape features include a double row of eastern red cedars along the historic entryway that approaches from the south. To the west of the house is a three-acre wetland containing hardwoods that is presumed to be a remnant rice field or reservoir related to the inland swamp type of rice cultivation. To the north and east exist pines and a woodland mixture of live oaks and other upland hardwoods. Open spaces on the site are covered by common coastal grasses. A drainage ditch running the length of the northern boundary of the site (and along historic Long Point Road) may date to the 19th century. Other changes include some boundary line fencing and surface scaring from a rough-grade road network built by a developer in 1988. Presently, the landscape is managed to retain a natural park-like setting. The existing cultural resources at the site offer a unique opportunity to interpret Snee Farm during the late 18th century. Rich archeological resources uncovered from the Pinckney period include possible foundations of the Pinckney home, artifacts directly related to the Pinckney family, and slave dwellings,

However, additional archeological investigations will be needed to document further the cultural activities that occurred during the Pinckney period and to support the interpretive programs.

Management Objectives

Based upon the authorized legislation, management objectives have been developed that provide direction for the overall administration of the park and guide the preparation of the GMP. Congressional debate and hearings on the bill that resulted in Public Law 100-421 established parameters for formulating the management objectives. The management objectives identify three primary areas of concern: visitor experience, the historic site, and related lands.

Visitor Experience:

- To interpret Charles Pinckney's role in framing the Constitution.
- To present Charles Pinckney's role in South Carolina's transition from colony to a state within the context of a young Nation.
- To create a sense of time and place which allows the visitor to experience Snee Farm, a modest lowcountry plantation, during Charleston's "Golden Age."

The Historic Site:

- To maintain the basic structure of the house at Snee Farm as a classic architectural example of an early 19th century lowcountry plantation house.
- To identify, protect, and interpret limited examples of historic agricultural and open space and selected archeological resources at Snee Farm related to the Pinckney family period (1730s – 1820s), including foundations, formal gardens, and pathways.

Related Lands:

- To present a rural and agricultural character surrounding Snee Farm by promoting conservation of adjacent important cultural and natural resources (such as views to and from the site, wetlands, scenic corridors, and other site features).

Issues

Based upon the management objectives, the condition of the extant resources, and the anticipated use of the park, the following park-specific management issues have been raised and are addressed in the plan.

Visitor Experience

What type of visitors are expected at each site? Units of the National Park System increasingly accommodate school groups, family groups, and individuals. Visitor-profile information for the Charleston area and input from local and State school-system curriculum advisors will help determine facility development and interpretation.

How will NPS prepare visitors coming to the site? What type of information should be developed and where should road signs be placed indicating directions to the facility? At present, a one page sheet gives basic information about the site. Because the facility is not yet open to the public, no attempt to provide road signs has been made.

Where and how are these stories (as mandated by Public Law 100-421) to be told?

From its historic districts within Charleston and Mount Pleasant to Fort Sumter in the harbor and to Boone Hall (across Long Point Road from the site), the Charleston area contains myriad attractions. *What will be the site's relationship to these resources? How will the site be distinguished from or related to the many cultural resources and visitor attractions of the Charleston area?*

Snee Farm contains a 19th-century coastal cottage, a portion of the Pinckney plantation, and archeological evidence of the Pinckney family's occupation. *How can the links between the existing resources at Snee Farm and the broader Pinckney story be addressed?*

Will an entrance fee be charged at the site? Charging fees will depend partially on the NPS policy regarding fees.

What will be the relationship between the site and cooperating associations? Is the Eastern National Parks and Monument Association (ENPMA) the appropriate organization for the sale of books and other articles about Charles Pinckney? Is this type of operation desirable or feasible?

A safe vehicular entrance into the park does not exist. Access to the park from Long Point Road is too close to a curve, according to NPS and South Carolina Department of Transportation standards. *Where can an entrance providing a save sight distance for vehicles turning into the site be placed?*

No visitor facilities exist on the site. *What type of facilities will be needed to support expected visitation? What type of utilities are available or must be brought on the site?*

What type of facilities are needed to manage the site properly? Should these facilities be located on the site or could they be accommodated off-site? How will the house at Snee Farm be used? Will it be made available for administrative or visitor use?

Besides permitting public visitation, will the site be available to host special events? In the past, Snee Farm served as the site for various types of social events. Now that Congress has established the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site and 28 acres has been acquired by the federal Government, will these types of events continue to occur?

How will the story of the Constitution be presented? Independence National Historical Park contains the buildings, artifacts, and exhibits most closely related to events surrounding framing of the Constitution. Several other National Park System units, including Federal Hall and Hamilton Grange National Memorials and the Adams National Historic Site, also contribute to the Constitution's story. Will Charles Pinckney National Historic Site interpret only Pinckney's contribution, or can the story be broadened to encompass the milieu of the Constitutional Convention, its sectional differences, all its participants, and its meaning to contemporary America?

During Pinckney's lifetime, Christ Church Parish, in which the site is located, enjoyed economic prosperity. What effect did the social, economic and cultural context of this period have on Pinckney's life and on his contributions to the Constitution? How will this story be told?

How will plantation life be interpreted?

Resource Management

What is the impact of adjacent development on the site? Residential subdivisions are located adjacent to three sides of the site and, in part, cover a large portion of the original 715-acre Pinckney plantation. Long Point Road and Boone Hall are located along the northern boundary. What type of management problems arise from these adjacent areas? Are the 28 acres sufficient to protect the resources?

What is the impact of vandalism on the natural and cultural resources? What steps can be taken within the purview of the GMP to reduce these problems?

The four structures extant on site postdate the Pinckney era. The house at Snee Farm was built after Charles Pinckney sold the property, and two wings were added in 1936. A single, smaller detached structure (the caretaker's house) is physically unsound. This structure, along with the corn crib and a barn, remain as part of the 1930s-1940s building activity at the site. *Can they serve a visitor-use and administrative function? How will the cenotaph and well, which are located near the house at Snee Farm, be used to interpret the site?*

Three acres of wetlands are located along the west boundary of the site. *How will this resource be managed and protected with respect to developing visitor-use and administrative facilities?*

Other NPS units in the State of South Carolina exercise concurrent jurisdiction over their areas. *Should concurrent jurisdiction from the State be sought at the site too? What type of interim or long range arrangements are proper with local fire and police authorities?*

The existing landscape reflects changes in land use from the late 1800s to the present, but not during the Pinckney period. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has expressed concerns regarding the proposed management actions affecting the 20th-century structure, particularly the caretaker's house and the corn crib. *How will these resources (structures and landscape) be addressed in light of the purposes of Public Law 100-421? In the event that archival and archeological investigations reveal no further information about the cultural landscape during the historic period, what alternatives are available for interpreting the existing cultural resources?*

What steps can be taken to supply the data that will help manage the cultural resources and provide information for the visitor? General archival information about Charles Pinckney, his life at Snee Farm, and the plantation itself is minimal. Research about the plantation could include tax and census records to determine what crops were grown, the number of slaves living here, and other questions about the operation and development of Snee Farm during Charles Pinckney's lifetime.

A strong, positive relationship exists between the NPS and the site's support group, the Friends of Historic Snee Farm. *What actions are necessary to ensure the assistance of this group? What will be its role? Are there opportunities to enlist volunteers and other organizations in cooperative efforts?*

Archeological resources and data will be the foundation of the interpretive programs in telling the story of the Pinckneys at Snee Farm. Recent archeological investigations have identified 18th-century subsurface remains associated with the Pinckney family. However, at present, little archeological information regarding the 18th-century landscape has been obtained from the limited investigation. The identification of spatial relationships and patterns of historic landscape features at Snee Farm could greatly assist in interpreting the history of the plantation. *How can the park continue the much-needed archeological research at the site? What should be the primary goals of archeological research at Snee Farm?*

Currently, the site is administered by the Fort Sumter National Monument. *How will the staff at Fort Sumter be involved in the continuing operation of Charles Pinckney National Historic Site?*

Artifacts at the site and at other NPS units in the area require protection and storage. The existing facilities at Fort Moultrie are inadequate to store and manage artifacts properly. *To ensure proper curatorial treatment, could a facility be located at the Charles*

Pinckney National Historic Site to serve the two units? If so, where should it be sited? Could its placement in the landscape be such that it has minimal impact on the visitor's visual experience of the historic site? Or could the NPS locate the facility off-site?

THE PLAN

Introduction to the Plan

The plan emphasizes personal services to the park visitors and outreach to the community. This strategy was designed to provide for the protection of the resource, to provide a satisfying experience for the site's visitors, to respond to a number of issues facing the site, and to address the direction set out in Public Law 100-421 and the management objectives.

This chapter discusses the concept of the plan followed by general and specific components. Decisions regarding interpretation, development, and management of natural and cultural resources at Charles Pinckney National Historic Site are included.

General Components of the Plan

Interpretation

Sharing with visitors the reasons for establishing the park involves not only deciding where visitor facilities will be located, but also involves what visitors should know about the park. What are the stories to tell? Which are the most important, and how will they be told? Interpreting the importance of the site is critical to ensuring visitor understanding of national park units. Where and how the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site will tell these stories is described later in the section titled "Specific Components of the Plan." The following paragraphs on interpretive themes describes what stories will be told at the site.

Interpretation is a process of education that is designed to stimulate curiosity and to convey messages to the visiting public. As in other historic parks, considerable overlapping occurs, making it difficult to present one theme without incorporating aspects from another. Nonetheless, three primary themes and numerous subthemes and topics have been identified for Charles Pinckney National Historic Site:

- *The Early Life of Charles Pinckney.* Charles Pinckney's formal education in America and his family's aristocratic position in Charleston, a major contemporary seaport and political center for the nation, contributed directly to his prominence as a national leader.
- *The Political Career of Charles Pinckney.* Charles Pinckney's wealth, position in Charleston society, and role in the Revolutionary War were instrumental in his selection as a Constitutional delegate. Later, Pinckney was very influential in South Carolina's eventual ratification of the *U.S. Constitution*.
- *Historic Snee Farm: Plantation Life.* Owned by the Pinckneys for over 60 years, Snee Farm provides an excellent place to interpret the lifestyles and life ways of an 18th-century plantation. Distinctions between Snee Farm and other contemporary plantations of Charleston can also be made.

- *Historic Snee Farm: Economy.* Eighteenth-century Snee Farm is representative of growth and development in America, marking the beginning of our Nation's global economy.
- *Historic Snee Farm: Slavery.* Slave contributions to Snee Farm's 18th-century plantation economy, both in agricultural skills and knowledge and in craftsmanship, are representative of slave achievements during our country's formative years.
- *The Young Nation: Industry vs. Agriculture.* Pinckney predicted that differences in the economic base of varied geographic areas would serve as a basis for sectional conflict (leading to the Civil War).
- *The Young Nation: A Strong Central Government.* Pinckney tirelessly advocated the need for a strong central government to represent the rights of all "freemen," laying the foundation that would later extend these rights to all Americans.
- *The Young Nation: The Constitution.* Elements of the *Constitution* promoted by Charles Pinckney continue to provide a strong influence on our lives today.
- *The Young Nation: South Carolina Ratification.* Pinckney's leadership during South Carolina's Constitutional Convention served to unify the state's varied political interests, resulting in ratification of the *United States Constitution*.

Archeological Resources

Given that the above-ground extant resources in the park are from later periods, the discoveries from archeological explorations become vitally important in the interpretation of Pinckney's life at Snee Farm and the agricultural activities there. Recent archeological investigations have uncovered Pinckney period resources, and these archeological remains represent some of the best intact subsurface architectural features recovered to date in the South Carolina lowcountry. Once an investigation has been completed, the foundation of any structures that are located will be covered, marked, and protected. In addition, artifacts of museum quality will be used to illustrate human occupation of Snee Farm. The results of future investigations will contribute to the management and to the interpretive efforts of the park in telling the plantation's role in Charles Pinckney's life and to the agricultural and economic history of Snee Farm within the context of Christ Church Parish.*

Developments proposed in the plan have been cleared by the NPS's Southeast Archeological Center in Tallahassee, Florida. The center determined that the areas proposed for a new entrance drive, for parking, for curatorial storage, and for an access road are not archeologically sensitive.

*Christ Church Parish includes the neck of land north of the Cooper River, bound on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, on the west by the Wando River, and on the north by the Awendaw Creek. Today, the area has been divided into county and city units; however, during Pinckney's time, parishes were the units of government.

General Development

In general, when the NPS sites a facility, it will be moved, redesigned, or otherwise altered to rest lightly upon the landscape. The northeast corner of the property will be utilized for **visitor access** to the site, for parking, and for general orientation. Because the existing entrance to the park is located near the end of a curve, a safer access to the site is needed. To correct this problem, the NPS will construct a new entrance off Long Point Road, approximately 130 feet from the northeast corner. This wooded area provides excellent screening of parked cars from all other areas of the park and the neighborhood. The current entrance road will then be closed and the surface drainage ditch, over which it crosses, reopened.

The **design of new structures** proposed in the plan will reflect the architectural style of the 19th-century house at Snee Farm. Through interpretation, visitors will be given ample information about these buildings, thus avoiding any confusion about their construction and their relationship to the history of the site.

For the upgrading, improvement, and construction of **roadways, parking areas, the maintenance area, and trails**, the NPS recommends surface stabilization. Newly developed techniques using well-graded native aggregates that are bonded with soil stabilization agents, form durable, dust-free, permeable surfaces that retain the natural color and texture of the regional soils. The design objective for this choice will be to create an appearance that is in keeping with the unpaved roads and paths of the 18th and 19th centuries while accommodating visitors with disabilities and 21st-century traffic. These surface stabilization techniques will allow for natural absorption of surface waters, thus, not requiring the construction of retention basins.

Site security from vandalism of the natural and cultural resources will be addressed in a number of ways. The NPS will seek the cooperation of and development agreements with the town of Mount Pleasant to assist in police and fire protection. Concurrent jurisdiction from the State of South Carolina will be sought early on to ensure protection efforts. More important, the site staff will cultivate a mutual relationship with its neighbors in order to impart a sense of proprietorship in the site and in the neighborhood in general. This relationship could be achieved through a Park Watch program and by actively soliciting the participation of park neighbors as volunteers-in-the-parks (VIPs).

In keeping with the policy of the other NPS sites in the area, the NPS does not anticipate that a **fee** will be charged to enter the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site at this time.

No formal areas will be designed for **picnicking or other types of recreational activities**. Rather, visitors will be encouraged to make use of a nearby facility, Palmetto Island County Park, just two miles west on Needle Rush Parkway off Long Point Road. Site staff will also work with Charleston County officials to plan for the accommodation of groups at the county facility.

On the basis of visitation to other historic sites in the Charleston area, the NPS anticipates that some visitors will arrive at Charles Pinckney National Historic Site in Recreational vehicles (RVs). These persons will be directed to use bus parking, when available, or to move to the informal overflow area south of the proposed parking area. Because the site will be managed as a day-use area, the NPS will direct **campers** to James Island County Park, approximately 15 miles south of the park in Charleston, and to Francis Marion National Forest, located some 15 miles north off the site on U.S. Highway 17.

Landscape Management

Until a cultural landscape report (CLR) has been completed, the present maintenance and preservation of the existing landscape will continue. (See the Section on Cultural Resource Management later in this document for more discussion of a CLR and its applications to the site.) The fields will continue to be mowed according to current practices, trees and shrubs will be maintained through an annual management program (fertilizing and pruning), and the wetlands will continue to be protected. In addition, native vegetation will be planted along the southern and southeastern boundary to provide visual screens between the site and the adjacent residential subdivisions. The NPS has documented the site's existing vegetation and will use it as a reference for future recommendations.

Whenever structures are threatened by existing vegetation, the integrity of the structures will take precedent. However, in conformance with the primary purpose and vision of the site, Pinckney-era resources will take precedence over existing structures and vegetation.

Types of Visitors & Special Populations

On the basis of visitation to other NPS units in the Charleston area and statistics drawn from the site's neighbor, Boone Hall, the NPS anticipates that many of the site's visitors will be school (mainly from Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester Counties) and tour groups. During the spring and fall seasons, the site can expect 12 to 15 bus loads of visitors daily in addition to visits from individuals and families. Many of these groups will arrive between 10:00a.m. and 2:00p.m.

The NPS will accommodate the needs of special populations (those with sight, hearing, learning, and mobility impairments; those who do not speak English; and the elderly and young children who visit the site). Accommodations will be made for access to the site as well as to all interpretive media. Public Law 90-480, the Architectural Barriers Act, establishes standards for physical access. Facilities will be designed for accessibility by

physically disabled visitors or employees. Historic structures require special treatment, and any modifications to them must be made after appropriate review and with the participation of a qualified historical architect. All new interpretive media will conform with the NPS Programmatic Accessibility Guidelines for Interpretive Media. (See Bibliography)

Area of Concern

Mount Pleasant has been steadily growing in population and size over the last 20 years. Given the town's interest in its cultural heritage, the NPS can expect to receive excellent cooperation in the protection of Long Point Road (a State Scenic Highway). This road runs from its intersection with U.S. Highway 17 to Interstate 526 and will be defined as the site's area of concern. The NPS will encourage both the town of Mount Pleasant and Charleston County (the north side of Long Point Road is in the county) as well as the South Carolina Department of Transportation to maintain a scenic corridor along the road.

visitors will be minimally aware of modern intrusions particularly as they approach the site from the east. Changes in land use, if they are to happen, would be screened visually from Long Point Road. This may involve supporting a requirement of wide setbacks and the planting of a vegetative screen. The site staff will be particularly involved in any proposals affecting the Long Point Road corridor from U.S. Highway 17 to Whipple Road. This corridor is regarded as the approach to the site and will significantly affect the visitor's initial impression of the park. The park will review proposals affecting this corridor and encourage efforts that help retain its historic nature.

Increasingly, commercial trucks traveling on U.S. Highway 17 have been illegally shortcutting onto Long Point Road to reach Interstate 526. In an effort to reduce or eliminate this traffic, the NPS will monitor and report such activities to the proper authorities. These actions could result in stricter enforcement of weight limits and commercial truck traffic by State and local authorities.

Another concern regarding Long Point Road involves requests for increasing the capacity of the road to accommodate more vehicles. Increased capacity would adversely affect the road's rural character and would diminish visitor experience. The park staff will work with the appropriate local and State authorities to ensure the continuation of Long Point Road as a State Scenic Highway by supporting the protection of its rural character.

Alternate forms of transportation will be encouraged along Long Point Road. Construction of sidewalks or bicycle paths as suggested by the town of Mount Pleasant could provide the non-motoring visitor an opportunity to travel to the site. However, every effort will be taken to encourage governmental agencies, as well as user groups, to preserve the integrity of the historic road.

Specific Components of the Plan

Access

Visitors will enter the park via a new entrance drive approximately 130 feet west of the northeast corner of the site. A new parking area there will accommodate 25 cars and 3 busses.

Overflow parking will be directed to the field south of this wooded area. In addition, drivers will be required to turn off their bus motors during their stay because of the presence of a residential subdivision along the site's eastern boundary.

Park personnel will enter the site through the proposed entrance; an administrative access road along the northern boundary will then take them to the maintenance area. This access road will be sited along a wooded area and, therefore, screened from view. Traffic noise will be consolidated along the Long Point Road corridor. The existing entrance road to the maintenance area from the northwest corner of the site will be closed for reasons of safety and security.

Orientation and Interpretation

Once on site, visitors will encounter a triangular, freestanding exhibit at the edge of the parking area. The exhibit will contain information about Charles Pinckney National Historic Site and the other NPS sites in the area (Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie). A similar exhibit will also be located at the two embarkation sites for boat tours to Fort Sumter and at Fort Moultrie.

Visitors will then be greeted by park personnel at the staffed orientation shelter located close to the parking area. This shelter will offer relief from the buggy, humid conditions prevalent in coastal South Carolina during many months of the year.

Exhibits, site bulletins, and brochures will be available at the shelter as well as a site map orienting the visitor to the various trails (discussed below) and resources. A time line will be developed to illustrate Charles Pinckney's relationship to Snee Farm and to explain Snee Farm as a continuum with events occurring after the Pinckney period. A breezeway will join the orientation shelter to rest rooms. These structures will meet the needs of from 60 to 120 visitors (two to three bus loads).

The area in which the orientation shelter and rest rooms will be situated can accommodate an expansion of facilities if warranted. Utilities (water, sewage, telephone, and electricity) will be extended to serve these facilities and fire suppression systems will be installed. Design for the structures will take into account a security system and outside lighting.

Interpretation of the site will begin at the orientation shelter through regularly scheduled tours for groups and individuals. consideration will be given to establishing a reservation

system for the tours. Staff will encourage visitors to become acquainted with other sites and attractions in the greater Charleston area that have a relationship with the Pinckney story.

Those visitors desiring to explore the site on their own will be directed to the exhibits in the orientation shelter and to strategically located waysides that explain the archeological sites, the house at Snee Farm, and the agrarian landscape. In addition, a small platform will be extended into the wetlands for use in interpreting rice cultivation and water transportation. A defined trail system will link these important points of interest.

Subject to funding, the NPS will continue archeological investigations and will integrate them into the interpretive and educational programs. Completed archeological work, having been recorded and catalogued, will be covered and marked appropriately. Visitors, both those on the regularly scheduled tours and school groups, will be able to view and learn about current archeological investigations.

Structures

The structures existing at Snee Farm date from a number of periods, none of which relate directly to or represent Pinckney period resources for which Congress authorized the site. To determine how they will assist in fulfilling the mandate of Congress and in adhering to the direction set forth in the management objectives, the following criteria were considered and ranked: 1) the ability to reuse the structure adaptively to support either visitor experiences or administrative use, 2) the integrity of the structure after rehabilitation, and 3) the costs of repair and maintenance.

Given these criteria, the NPS has determined that certain structures, such as the house at Snee Farm, the corn crib, and the barn can be adapted for reuse for visitor use or administrative purposes. The caretaker's house will be removed. Consultations with historical architects and structural engineers were taken into consideration in reaching these decisions. Further discussion of these decisions follows.

The house at Snee Farm, constructed some time after Pinckney's sale of the property, has been well maintained and warrants preservation and adaptive use. Adequate space exists to accommodate administrative uses, thereby avoiding the expense of building an additional structure for this purpose.

The 20th-century wings will not be removed, and the house will not be restored or furnished to its 19th-century appearance. Existing security measures will be evaluated and updated as needed.

To avoid confusion regarding the history of the house, interpretive media will inform the visitor at the outset that the house at Snee Farm represents a comparatively rare example of a modest 19th-century coastal dwelling (with 20th-century modifications) that postdated

Charles Pinckney. The 28-acre site represents a small portion of Pinckney's 715-acre plantation.

A lift leading onto the north porch of the house at Snee Farm will provide access for physically disabled persons. After consideration of other access alternatives, including their cost, maintenance, visual impact, location, and the floor plan of the house, the NPS determined that the lift will be the best alternative. Minor modification to the interior, such as the widening of 20th-century door openings, removal or reducing the heights of thresholds, and the removal or replacement of closets, shelving, kitchen cabinets, and kitchen appliances, will allow disabled access to the first floor and improve visitor circulation. The second floor will be used for the storage of light materials. The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation and the NPS policies governing preservation will guide the treatment of the house at Snee Farm's exterior and interior changes.

The interior of the house at Snee Farm will be adapted for reuse for a variety of functions. Site staff will use it as their administrative center. A staffed information desk will double as a sales outlet and provide information to the visitors about Charles Pinckney and his family, his political life (particularly his contributions to the framing of the Constitution and subsequent events), and the Snee Farm plantation. Information about other NPS sites in the area will also be available. Exhibits, videos, and publication will be available to broaden the visitors' knowledge of the site.

One of the rooms will be designated as the Pinckney Reading Room. Here, students and scholars can conduct research into Pinckney, his times, Snee Farm, and the history of the young Nation. Site visitors, too, can relax here and casually delve into research materials. The NPS does not anticipate that original documents will be stored in this room; copies will be made available. This room will also be used to hold meetings.

The east wing will be converted to a classroom and theater that will accommodate school groups and the general park visitor. Doorways will be widened and closets removed to allow visitor entry into the classroom-theater.

The 1936 caretaker's house represents a portion of the 20th-century landscape of Snee Farm. Several adaptive uses were suggested for the structure. They included employee or VIP housing, a site for cultural demonstrations, and space for interpretive exhibits. However, after consultation with historical architects and structural engineers, the NPS determined that this structure was unsound and that the approximate cost for restoration would approach \$60, 000. After seeking a determination of eligibility, the NPS will recommend the caretaker's house removal. Mitigation of this action will be sought through architectural and archeological documentation.

The 20th-century barn has been well maintained over the past 50 years. Its condition warrants adaptive use as the maintenance building, thus avoiding the expense of constructing a new facility.

This structure will be stabilized and used for maintenance and administrative activities, including limited equipment storage. Large equipment needed occasionally for the maintenance of the site will be brought to the park from the Fort Moultrie maintenance area. Because the barn is inadequate for safe storage of flammable substances, such as paints and solvents, a small structure will be built in the maintenance area for this purpose.

To contribute to the security of the site, VIPs working at Fort Sumter, Fort Moultrie, or Charles Pinckney may situate an RV at this site for brief periods. By their presence on the site, the potential for vandalism and theft should be reduced without any law enforcement actions required of the VIP.

The 20th-century corn crib, located near the barn and in a flood-prone area, will be preserved and stabilized. It will be relocated, and adaptively used for storage of light materials. Costs for preservation will be modest.

The entire maintenance area will be sufficiently screened from the rest of the site so as not to interfere with the visitor experience. Every effort will be made to keep vehicular traffic to a minimum.

Curatorial Facility

Near the southeast edge of the parking area, the NPS will construct a curatorial facility to house artifacts for national park units (Fort Sumter, Fort Moultrie, and Charles Pinckney) in the Charleston area. At present, museum artifacts for Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie are stored at the Fort Moultrie site on Sullivans Island, a flood-prone area. An offsite facility would not guarantee a permanent home for a function that needs a specialized long-term solution. Artifacts would be subject to periodic moves from facility to facility as leases expired and an appropriate new facility was found. In addition, finding a suitable location that met NPS standards for such a facility would be extremely difficult.

The eastern half of the Pinckney site is at an elevation above the floodplain, and therefore, is better able to protect these resources. The facility would be designed to meet standards for the storage of museum and archival materials, as well as to compliment existing local architecture. Its location would screen it from view from all other areas of the park.

The Southeast Archeological center has determined that the area proposed for the curatorial facility is not archeologically sensitive.

Outreach to the Community

The major focus of the site's interpretive efforts and the volunteer and cooperating associations work will be on Pinckney's contribution to the framing and adoption of the

U.S. Constitution. The park can formalize relationships with such organizations through written agreements using existing NPS mechanisms.

Volunteers and cooperating associations will also prepare specialized offsite programs for schools and civic and historic organizations and will seek the assistance of national organization, such as the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, in preparing Pinckney-related materials. Symposia, lectures, and periodic events honoring Pinckney and the Constitution will be tailored for a variety of audiences, including the appropriate school groups in the greater Charleston area.

Volunteers and cooperating associations will develop a variety of specialized interpretive programs to enhance visitor understanding of the site. These will focus on the various aspects of plantation life, including the cultivation of rice, indigo, and other regional crops; skills needed to operate a plantation; and skills in the local community that have survived as a result of this culture (e.g., sweet grass basket making). At times, volunteers will don period dress to present these cultural resource demonstrations and to display period clothing at commemorative events. For example, the NPS will consider designating one day annually (perhaps the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution or of South Carolina's ratification of the document) for a special event. Park staff will provide guidance and direction to such efforts in accordance with NPS policies.

Cooperation with Local School Programs.

Anticipating that the school systems will add the site to their list of American history-South Carolina study areas, the NPS will take the initiative in coordinating a curriculum with area teachers that will be based on Charles Pinckney and the Constitution. In cooperating with the school systems, the NPS will develop curricula and teacher's guides will be developed so that the Pinckney story can be woven into the grade-appropriate course of study. This course of study will be supplemented by in-service teacher training either on site or at a centralized location. Schools beyond the three-county area will be invited to participate in the Pinckney-Snee Farm program.

Friends of Historic Snee Farm

The Friends of Historic Snee Farm (Friends) have played a key role in establishing the site. It is hoped that this organization will continue its interests in providing input for broad management issues and its assistance in special fund raising efforts. The relationship between the Friends and the park may be formalized through a written agreement. This document will outline the roles, responsibilities, and expectations of the respective parties.

In the past, the Friends have also hosted a number of special events and fund raisers at Snee Farm. Judging each request on a case-by-case basis, the superintendent may issue

special use permits allowing these events for the Friends and other local community groups.

Boone Hall

Located directly across Long Point Road from the park, Boone Hall usually holds five special events annually that will have a significant impact on the site. It is anticipated that the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site will receive unusually large numbers of visitors during these special events. Permanent facilities will not be designed to accommodate these crowds. Nonetheless, the park will cooperate with local authorities and Boone Hall to address the anticipated effects on the park of thousands of people attending those events. Additional staff from Fort Sumter will be assigned if necessary.

Additional Research on Subthemes

The NPS will conduct further research to support personal services and interpretation. Topics for study include plantation life on a “modest lowcountry farm,” an in depth study of Pinckney’s role in framing the *Constitution*, South Carolina as a model for inland settlement in the South, and agricultural activities and handicrafts of the area. Research into the evolution of land use in Christ Church Parish through the study of plats and other archival materials will be augmented by continued archeological investigations. Such information can aid in interpreting plantation life, the agricultural economy of Snee Farm, and the history of the young Nation. Under this plan, the NPS will pursue an expanded publications program and will prepare specialized video programs concentrating on these interpretive themes of the site.

Related Themes in Other NPS Sites

The park’s staff will develop programs and activities with other NPS units that interpret related themes, such as the Constitution (e.g., with Independence National Historical Park, Federal Hall National Memorial, and Hamilton Grange National Memorial) and plantation life (e.g., with Natchez National Historical Park and Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve). These efforts will enhance the quality of interpretation at the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site, thus broadening visitor awareness of the connections among historic themes of other National park units. Materials about these sites will be available at the sales outlet or used for school group curricula and programs.

Signage and Publicizing the Site

Signs directing visitors to the site will be placed at the U.S. Highway 17 and Long Point Road intersection as well as at the Long Point Road exit on Interstate 526 when the site is open to the public. A park sign will also be designed and erected at the entrance to the site. At Fort Sumter, Fort Moultrie, and the embarkation points for the tour-boat ride to Fort Sumter, visitors will also find directions to the site.

In addition the park will provide initial information about the site in such commercial publications as Gateway to Historic Charleston (a publication of The Charleston Gateway, Inc.), in literature distributed by the Trident Area Chamber of Commerce, and in tour-bus mailing lists. Through the efforts of the Trident Area Chamber of Commerce, rack cards and other information will be made available at trade shows; to the local events television channel, to Rand McNally, AAA guidebooks and other media; and to selected welcome centers in the Charleston area and throughout the State of South Carolina. Efforts to promote the site will be directed at television audiences and at magazines that publish articles about special-interest tours and local attractions. In addition, volunteers and cooperating associations will ensure the site's participation in George Washington's Grand Tour, an annual event commemorating Washington's tour of the southern states after the Revolutionary War. Participating sites display the "Carriage Symbol," a sign that indicates where the President stopped on his visit.

Consolidating Services with Other NPS Sites in the Area

Efforts will be made to share or consolidate services offered at Fort Sumter National Monument and Fort Moultrie with the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site. These efforts will result in providing cost-effective services to the public, offering a high level of protection to site resources, and making available to the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site the services, staff, and resources of the other two NPS operations.

Legislation

At the present time, no changes are needed in the authorizing legislation or in altering the boundaries of the 28-acre national historic site. Confining NPS efforts to the 28 acres will offer a satisfying visitor experience and protection of known Pinckney-related resources. In the future, as the site develops and additional research is conducted into Pinckney, Snee Farm, and the history of the United States as a young Nation, the necessity of amending the legislation or changing the boundaries will be reevaluated.

Staffing and Costs

For the immediate future, the site will be administered by the Superintendent of Fort Sumter National Monument (headquartered at Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's Island). Associated with the development and increased visitor use are staff of 10 to 12 people (including technical support staff from Fort Sumter) and an annual cost in the range of \$300,00 to \$330,000. The Superintendent and the staff Fort Sumter will provide executive direction, journeyman level skills, technical supervision, law enforcement, and administrative support and supervision. Total development costs, including interpretation, are approximately \$1,355,000.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this section is to set forth natural and cultural management actions that would be undertaken under this plan and to provide guidance for resource management action in the park. Under NPS policies, each unit should complete a resources management plan specifying actions required to preserve, monitor, manage, and interpret the resources of the site.

Cultural Resource Management

The Cultural Resource Management Guideline, NPS-28, will guide long-term planning and management of the resources as part of the park's resources management program. Effective cultural resource management integrates cultural resources concerns into other park planning and management processes.

Major elements of these processes address accessibility and load-monitoring systems for individual structures and facilities. Without substantially compromising historical integrity, structures and facilities will be made accessible to the extent possible to visitors and employees with disabilities. Building load studies for extant structures have been calculated for structural stress. Maximum-use figures and cyclical maintenance considerations will be incorporated in managing these resources.

Snee Farm was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 13, 1973, and was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior on November 7, 1973. The property was deemed significant because it was considered at the time to be an historic house associated with Charles Pinckney, one of the framers of the U.S. Constitution. An amendment of the National Register nomination is currently underway.

The cultural resources at Snee Farm include: Structures (the extant 19th-century coastal cottage and associated 20th-century barn, corn crib, and caretaker's house); the prehistoric and historic archeological objects and remains; and the landscape features (including 20th-century plantings, existing roads, the remaining portion of a historic entrance to the site, existing entrances, a cenotaph honoring Charles Pinckney's father, a well on the west side of the 19th-century house, and a ditch along the south side of Long Point Road). Of these, the most important are identified historic archeological resources associated with the Pinckney family.

- Archeological Resources at Snee Farm
- Charles Pinckney's Snee Farm has at least two facets of national archeological significance. The first is the demonstrated association of *in situ* archeological deposits with Charles Pinckney and his family during the 18th and early 19th centuries. Remains that can clearly be attributed to the Pinckneys include:

- a well where personalized Pinckney material was found;
- a detached kitchen that produced additional personalized Pinckney items as well as a rich assemblage of artifacts that span the Pinckney era;
- the possible remains of the main plantation house occupied by the Pinckneys;
- a slave village situated in the southwest corner of the park that was occupied during Pinckney ownership.

These deposits are considered to have particular importance because they can definitely be attributed to one of the Nation's founding families.

The second facet of significance lies in the potential contribution Snee Farm can make to the subdisciplines of plantation and slave archeology. Initial assessment of the spatially limited archeological explorations suggest that not only is the site rich in middle 18th to early 19th-century remains, it also contains impressive deposits from the 19th and 20th centuries. Snee Farm is, therefore, a large, comprehensive, but mostly unread library of lowcountry rural culture. It is also unique when compared with the majority of plantation sites across the Southeastern United States where most archeological research has been conducted in advance of some anticipated physical impact rather than being part of a longterm problem solving research program. In those instances investigations were limited and conducted during short time frames. Consequently, although these contributions are great, many important research topics went uninvestigated and were closed to further research because they were subsequently destroyed by development.

In contrast, Snee Farm has excellent archeological deposits that can be researched over an extended period. Research here can be developed with adequate time to consider the results of previous investigations of the site as well as advances made in method, theory, and technique across a variety of intellectual and scientific disciplines.

The farm, thus, can provide incomparable information about aspects of Charles Pinckney that no other known resource can. Equally important, it can provide excellent information regarding several hundred years of the African-American experience in this corner of the Nation.

Studies Conducted or in Progress

The NPS conducted several research studies to help manage the cultural resources. Funded by the Friends of Historic Snee Farm, the NPS Historic American Building Survey/Historic American Engineering Records (HABS/HAER) Division also provided photographs of the house at Snee Farm and the caretaker's house.

In preparation for the private development of the site in the 1980s, the developers commissioned several archeological studies. The Friends of Historic Snee Farm followed

by funding both architectural and archeological research. The Southeast Archeological Center of the NPS initiated a series of investigations on the site, and these investigations are expected to continue.

A survey team from the Southeast Regional Office in Atlanta is preparing a **list of classified structures** (LCS) for the site. Using a **historic resources study** (HRS) the team, in conjunction with park staff and the State Historic Preservation Office, will determine the level of National Register significance for park cultural resources. The HRS will form the basis for the National Register documentation and will include an historic base map so that all cultural resources can be properly identified and evaluated. Existing National Register documentation will be supplemented to reflect the results of current historical architectural and archeological research. In addition, the LCS will provide information on the condition and use of as well as threats to the structures. Cost estimates will be calculated for treating structures. The results of these studies will be used in the management of the site.

Because existing historical background information was inadequate for this planning effort, the NPS prepared a **historical background study**. Planners used historical records to understand the evolution of the cultural landscape of Snee Farm in particular and Christ Church Parish in general. The NPS conducted this historical research in consultation with historians Drs. George C. Rogers and Walter B. Edgar of the University of South Carolina, the state Historic Preservation Office, and the Friends of Historic Snee Farm.

Studies Needed

Before action can be taken to prevent damage to the resources, it is important to find out what exactly is on the site, what the best strategy is for preserving or protecting the resource, how it should best be maintained, and how much use it can tolerate without degradation.

One of the first studies to be undertaken will be a **cultural landscape report** (CLR). the CLR documents and evaluates the features, materials, and qualities that make a landscape eligible for the National Register. The report includes documentation, analysis, and evaluation of historical, architectural, archeological, ethnographic, horticultural, engineering, ecological, and architectural landscape data. Recommendations for treatment are made consistent with the landscape's significance, condition, and planned use.

The investigating archeologist recommended a program of continuing archeological research because the archeological remains represent the only cultural resources at Snee Farm associated with Charles Pinckney. Archeological research will contribute to an understanding of the family's residency and would help establish the location of the original Pinckney house site, fence rows, gardens, outbuildings, and other related cultural resource data, as well as to an appreciation of the prehistoric use of the area.

Archeological research may also provide information that can be used to reconstruct and interpret slave life and the evolution of the agrarian landscape.

The NPS will record archeological site on a **cultural sites inventory** (CSI). The evaluation of resources will determine the integrity and research potential of the sites in relation to the National Register criteria.

Before any anticipated facility development, the NPS will conduct archeological surveys to obtain information necessary to assess the effects on resources and to evaluate the significance of the resources pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended. Compliance with the NHPA also includes consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office. Special archeological studies may be needed to evaluate resources indirectly affected by planned construction and visitor use.

A scope of collection statement (SCS) guides the NPS in acquiring and using museum objects and specimens that contribute to the understanding and interpretation of the site's themes, as well as acquiring and using those objects that the NPS is legally mandated to preserve. The SCS defines the purpose of the museum and the archival collection; sets agreed-upon limits that specify the subject matter, geographical location, and time period to which the collection must relate; and considers the uses to which the collection will be put. It also briefly outlines policy and procedures for acquiring and using museum and archival collections.

An appropriate museum and archival storage and treatment facility is needed for the combined museum collection of Charles Pinckney National historic Site, Fort Sumter National Monument, and Fort Moultrie. The NPS recommends that the facility be located at Snee Farm near the proposed parking area. Storage of materials at Fort Moultrie is no longer advisable because this facility is located in a flood-hazard zone and does not meet NPS museum standards for the storage and treatment of archival materials. The new facility will require provisions for access, use, and storage; equipment (including an adequate heating, ventilating and, air conditioning system); environmental monitoring and control; fire detection, protection, and suppression; and security.

The NPS ruled out the maintenance area at Snee Farm as the location for the curatorial facility because this section of the park lies within a flood zone. A curatorial facility located in a flood zone does not meet standards on the Department of Interior's Checklist for Preservation, Protection, and Documentation of Museum Property.

The NPS will manage the collection and archives according to its standards and guidelines. Therefore, museum collections must be stored and exhibited in appropriately designed and controlled environments with adequate protection against accidents, theft, atmospheric pollution, insect infestation, and vandalism. In addition, the collections must be cared for and monitored to ensure long term stability and preservation.

In order to manage the museum collection of the three parks at the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site, several other planning documents will be required. They include a collection management plan, collection storage plan, collection condition survey, and security and fire protection plan. These plans will assist the park in the accountability, protection, and preservation of its museum collections.

All historic structures will be evaluated for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Management of significant structures will be in accordance with the Secretary of Interior's Standards and in compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, as amended.

A **historic structures assessment report (HSAR)** will be needed to guide the long term treatment and use of the house at Snee Farm. Extensive restoration, reconstruction, and rehabilitation activities are not planned. All aspects of the house and the immediate grounds and associated structures should be addressed in the HSAR. The HSAR will contain an **inventory condition and assessment program** that will address the treatment of all significant historic structures.

High humidity and insect infestation create special cultural resource problems for both wood and masonry structures. Care will be taken to ensure that all structures have adequate drainage systems and that vegetation is trimmed away from buildings so that water does not run onto roofs and walls. Groundwater problems will be addressed immediately, and steps will be taken to ensure that water drains away properly from building foundations.

Efforts will be made to maintain the existing integrity and character of the house, barn, and corn crib at Snee Farm while rehabilitating them for the designated uses described.

A **special history study** is usually prepared for the Interpretive Prospectus or for developing interpretive or resource management programs. A biographical study of Charles Pinckney has been recommended by Dr. Rogers and Edgar.

Ethnographic resources studies will assess and evaluate existing ethnographic information and identify data gaps. These studies will give a better understanding of historical changes in the local community. Emphasis will be placed on identifying park resources (archeological resources and artifacts) related to African-American communities that were historically associated with Snee Farm and Christ Church Parish. Oral histories of these communities are also important.

The establishment of a Pinckney Reading Room will call for policies addressing the types of materials and documents available at the facility. No original material will be included; thus, the collection may be treated as part of the park's reference-library collection, rather than as part of the museum collection.

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The purpose of this section is to set forth natural resource management studies and actions that would be undertaken in implementing the plan and in guiding the natural resource management section of the resource management plan. In addition to cultural resource management issues, the resources management plan addresses various natural resource issues. They include inventories, vegetation management, integrated pest management, preservation of wetlands, and protection of rare and endangered species.

The natural resources at the park are an integral part of the cultural landscape at Charles Pinckney National Historic Site. Natural resources would be managed to preserve or restore historic settings where necessary to support the interpretation of themes and historic resources. Support of the site's cultural resources would be determined in more detail from a cultural landscape report and further archeological investigations and archival studies.

The development of an up-to-date inventory of natural resources is important. Only when an accurate picture of the type and condition of natural resources in a park exists can effective management decisions be made. Natural resources are constantly changing; thus, a program of long-term monitoring is essential to help detect changes in resource conditions before unacceptable changes occur.

The NPS requires an integrated pest management (IPM) approach including the use of cultural, mechanical, biological, or chemical methods to control any pests in the park. Chemical pesticides are only used in conjunction with nonchemical methods and only as a last resort. An IPM plan will be prepared as a separate action document. It will discuss controlling unwanted vegetation and managing and controlling pests.

Areas of the park have been invaded by exotic species, such as honeysuckle, privet, and wisteria. Left unchecked, these species can threaten native vegetation as well as existing garden species. A cultural landscape report is needed to determine the composition of the grounds in these areas so that the most effective and least damaging solution can be made to control or eliminate these species. During the construction of facilities, such as the parking area, entrance road, and the lift, efforts will be taken to relocate salvageable garden species, such as camellias and azaleas.

MANAGEMENT ZONES

The lands within the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site have been placed into management zones, which indicate where park operation, management zones, which indicate where park operations, management functions, visitor use, and development are appropriate. Zones are identified on the basis of authorizing legislation, NPS policies, the site's resources, desired visitor experiences, and established uses. The management zones (and subzones) are shown on the following illustration. These zones will be used in an interim capacity until further research is completed that may uncover additional information about Pinckney-related resources.

The entire site has been designated as an historic zone within which are two development subzones (see Management Zoning Map). The addition of the curatorial facility, larger parking area, orientation shelter, and rest rooms warrants a larger development subzone in the northeast portion of the site.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

CULTURAL RESOURCES

House at Snee Farm

The house at Snee Farm (c.1820) is a comparatively rare example of a 19th-century coastal cottage. The main block of the one-and-a-half-story structure measures 38 feet by 36 feet, has five bays, and is side gabled. Two wings were added to the rear in the 1930s. The main block has a Georgian plan, two interior chimneys, a full-facade front porch, and a rear porch between the wings. Much of the original interior woodwork is intact. It is in good condition and has received preservation treatment. Temporary administrative headquarters for the park are located in the west wing.

Barn

Constructed in 1944, the barn was primarily used as a stable by previous owners. This wood-framed structure measures 63 feet by 51 feet by 27 feet and is side gabled with a central square cupola and a decorative front gable on the raised seam roof. The barn has a continuous brick foundation, a central aisle, and front and rear shed extensions. It is currently used as a limited maintenance facility and is in good condition.

Corn Crib

Located in the northwest section of the site in the maintenance area, the wood-framed corn crib measures 13 feet by 17 feet by 18 feet. It has ventilated sides and weather-boarded gable ends. The corn crib walls flare toward the eaves and the raised-seam gable roof. The building rests on the ground and the sills are rotting.

Caretaker's House

Located on the northern side of the site, this 1930s outbuilding is clad in six-inch weather-boards and has a gable-end brick chimney, front-shed porch, and an enclosed rear-shed addition. The one-story, three-bay, side-gabled cottage measures 27 feet by 31 feet by 19 feet. Extensive rotting and termite damage has occurred to porch members, sills, walls, and some siding. The house's windows have rotten and are boarded up to prevent trespass.

Centotaph

Measuring 5 ½ feet by 2 ½ feet by 4 inches, this nonhistoric marble tablet carries an inscription and carved image of a funerary urn. It is located southeast of the house at Snee Farm. This marker, in memory of Charles Pinckney's farther, is apparently a

replacement for the original that was removed from Snee Farm and placed at Christ Church.

Archeological Resources

Archeological investigations have uncovered deposits that can be attributed to the Pinckneys. These include a possible privy and a detached kitchen that produced personalized Pinckney items as well as a rich assemblage of artifacts that span the Pinckney era; the possible remains of the Pinckney main plantation house; a presumed ornamental garden structure; and a slave community, which was occupied during Pinckney ownership. Archeological assessments also suggest that the site contains a large comprehensive deposit of 19th- and 20th-century lowcountry rural material culture. These investigations may also provide excellent clues regarding a major portion of African-American history in this corner of the Nation.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Location, Topography and Climate

Charles Pinckney National Historic Site is located in Charleston County in South East South Carolina. The site is one-half mile north of U.S. Highway 17 and is located within the corporate limits of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. The site lies within the 10-mile-wide Coastal Zone of the Atlantic Coastal Plain and is 4.73 air miles from the Atlantic Ocean. Topographically, the Coastal Zone is characterized by flat terrain, numerous fresh and salt water marshes, maritime forest communities, and, and nearest the ocean, sand dunes.

The site has an elevation of approximately 9 to 17 feet and consists of 25.72 acres of uplands and 2.73 acres of wetlands. The portion of the site below 11 feet and west of the house at Snee Farm is in the 100-year floodplain. This 28-acre site reflects an evolving 20th-century landscape and has been in agricultural production since it was settled in the 18th century. Snee Farm Country Club adjoins the south property line; the Snee Farm Subdivision is located along the east side of the site. The west side property line follows the center line of a drainage ditch classified as an estuarine wetland (United States Department of the Interior [USDOI], Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory Map – Fort Moultrie, South Carolina Quad, 1988: E2EM1P and E2SS3P) that feeds Boone Hall Creek, Horlbeck Creek, and the Wando River. The north side of the property is bordered by two-lane Long Point Road and the agricultural land (which is not in production) of Boone Hall Plantation.

The climate is characterized as humid, subtropical with temperatures that are moderated by the Atlantic Ocean and the warmer Gulf Stream. Summers are hot and humid, subtropical with temperatures that are moderated by the Atlantic Ocean and the warmer Gulf Stream. Summers are hot and humid whereas winters generally mild with occasional freezing temperatures of short duration. Average January temperatures are 49 degrees while the average temperature in July is 81 degrees. This region of South Carolina has a long growing season (290 days) that extends from mid-February to early December.

Rainfall varies seasonally and averages about 48 inches annually. During the summer months, convection storms, created by moist tropical air and intense solar radiation, are common in the late afternoon or early evening periods. These storms are often violent (high winds, thunder, lightening, and heavy downfall) but of short duration. Winter precipitation (snow is very rare) usually results when cold continental fronts collide with warm air.

Hurricanes periodically pass through this region of South Carolina. Strong winds, tidal surges, and tornadoes spawned from the storms are responsible for most of the resulting damage. Wind speeds can reach 200 miles per hour, and tidal surges may reach 8 to 20 feet. The two most recent hurricanes to hit the site were David in 1979 and Hugo in 1989. Hurricane Hugo seriously damaged or destroyed many of the larger trees on the site and caused extensive damage to the surrounding local area.

Geology and Soils

This area of South Carolina has a history of seismic activity. A major South Carolina-Georgia seismic Zone that runs across the State of South Carolina has been identified. The presence of the Woodstock Fault near Charleston and a history of severe seismic activity has led to eastern South Carolina being recognized as a major earthquake risk area.

The soils in the Coastal Zone include the coastal Entisols and Alfisols in inland areas.

Prime and Unique Farmlands

One wetland area on the site has a soil known as Younges loamy fine sand that is classified by the United States Department of Agriculture as a soil of “Prime Farmland of State-Wide Importance.” This soil is characterized as being nearly level, poorly or very poorly drained, and with a water table within one-half foot of the soil surface. These soils are flooded or ponded and cannot be drained.

Vegetation

The long wet growing season of the Coastal Zone facilitates lush vegetative growth. Before agricultural activities began, upland portions of the site were once likely covered by a maritime forest. This type of forest is characterized by live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), palmetto (*Sabal palmetto*), slash pine (*Pinus elliotii*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), and magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), with an understory of hollies (*Ilex* spp.) and wax myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*). Hydric species, typical for the ecotone, characterize the wetlands.

At present, the vegetation of the historic landscape includes a double row of approximately 60-year old eastern red cedars situated along the historic entry road from the south. The house is surrounded by large live oaks, magnolias, and horticultural plantings (primarily camellias and azaleas) from the 1940s. The open areas are covered with common coastal grasses that are maintained by routine mowing. A mixture of pine and hardwoods and several fruit and pecan trees are to the east of the house. The previously mentioned maritime species, including red maple (*Acer rubrum*) and beech (*Fagus* sp.), dominate the vegetative community of the 3-acre wooded area to the east of the house. Remnants of exotic horticultural plantings are also in this area.

Water Resources and Wetlands

The USDO National Wetland Inventory Maps were examined for the presence of wetlands. The Fort Moultrie Quad map shows the location of two intertidal estuarine (salt marsh) wetlands alongside the center line of a dredged drainage ditch that forms the western boundary. The larger area, a 50-foot to 100-foot side strip, has been classified as an E2EM1P wetland (an irregularly flooded, intertidal estuary with persistent emergent vegetation). Near the southern boundary of the site a smaller wetland was classified as an E2SS3P type wetland (an irregularly flooded, intertidal estuary with a broad-leaved, evergreen scrub or shrub plant community). Drainage from these two areas feeds Boone Hall Creek, Horlbeck Creek, and the Wando River, which then empties into the Cooper River.

Another low-lying area is located between the barn and caretaker's house. This area is fed by a ditch along Long Point Road and by runoff along the wooded area north of the house at Snee Farm. Here, the predominant trees are cypress, palmetto, and sweetgum. Contour lines on U.S. Geological Survey maps indicate that surface runoff over the site is generally in a westerly direction toward the wetland areas.

One well structure is located close to the house at Snee Farm but has been filled in and is no longer a water source. Water is provided by the town of Mount Pleasant.

Floodplains

Flood Insurance Rate Maps from 1988 indicate that the wetland portions of the property lie within the 100-year flood zone. Adjoining this area, an approximately 200-foot wide strip of land lies between the limits of the 100- and 500-year flood zones. The remaining property, including that on which the house at Snee Farm stands, are in areas subject to minimal flooding.

Fish and Wildlife

A long history of agriculture and the extent of surrounding development have displaced many animal species and restricted wildlife to generally smaller species more common and adapted to suburban environments. These include rodents (squirrels and mice), smaller reptiles (snakes and turtles), amphibians (frogs and toads) and various bird species. Large mammals such as raccoons, opossums, and foxes are present, and whitetail deer are frequently seen on the site. These species have adapted to living in area affected by human activities and development. The three acres of wooded property offer the only forested habitat on the site, although a larger expanse of forest and open areas is located on Boone Hall's property across Long Point Road.

Threatened and Endangered Species

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had identified three mammals, eight birds, four sea turtles, one fish, one lizard, one salamander, and seven plant species as federally threatened, endangered or candidate species that are known to occur in Charleston County. Although habitat conditions exist nearby for some listed species, the presence of any listed species has not been documented on the property. The Charleston office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service conducted an onsite review of the park.

The South Carolina Heritage Trust data manager has also indicated that no State-listed threatened or endangered species occur on the site, although some are known to exist in the local area.

Air Quality

As of July 1992, the South Carolina Environmental Quality Control Reported that the particle discharge from surrounding industries and electrical generating facilities met Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines. These standards must be met because of Charleston's nearness to Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge.

South Carolina Electric and Gas has two electrical-generation plants in the Charleston area that use coal as the primary fuel and thus discharge sulfur dioxide into the atmosphere; The Williams Station on the Cooper River and the Haygood Station that is normally off-line and is used only during periods of peak demand. Under guidelines set by the Clean Air Act of 1990, the Williams Station will be required to install a scrubber to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions. A copy of the 1990 Air Quality Annual Report is kept at Fort Sumter National Monument.

Visual Quality

Only scattered remnants of a rural and agricultural landscape surround the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site. Residential developments already border park property. Commercial and residential developments associated with the growth of Mount Pleasant threatened undeveloped areas nearby. The South Carolina Department of Transportation maintains and has designated Long Point Road as a Scenic Highway. Zoning by the town of Mount Pleasant provides only minimal visual quality protection. Boone Hall Plantation, across Long Point Road, maintains some open lands as mowed fields that minimize the impact of developed areas. However, this property is under private ownership and is located outside of Mount Pleasant's corporate limits where there are fewer restrictions to impede development.

Hazardous Wastes

An Environmental Assessment by Earth Management Systems on March 21, 1990, reviewed the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

(SCDHEC) and EPA files and determined that there was minimal potential for contamination from off-site sources. Further-more, the study revealed that the property has never required a SCDHEC investigation and that there are no documented cases of soil, surface-water, or ground-water contamination within one mile of the property.

SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Presently Charleston County is one of the most urbanized counties in South Carolina; its population 295,039 (1990 Census), and it has a density of 222 people per square mile. The region's major sources of employment are transportation and trade, government-associated industries, the military, tourism, and the fish and shellfish industry. Charleston is also a major medical and educational center for the State. The Charleston area economy was once dominated by the military. The Charleston Naval Base is the third largest home port and fourth largest naval base in the country. However, the defense industry's layoffs and the closing of the Charleston Naval Base are reducing military employment. Despite this recent situation, an expansive growth in suburbanization and coastal resort development since the 1950s has caused the emergence of new markets. Mount Pleasant (population 34,193 [1993 Census Audit]) has posted significant increases in growth (150 percent) in the past 13 years and should continue to do so because of improved access to Charleston.

The Port of Charleston ranks among container cargo ports in the Southeast and gulf coast regions and handles approximately 45 percent of all container tonnage among competing ports. In fiscal year 1993, the port handled a total tonnage of 7.1 million.

Travel and tourism was a \$6.3 billion market in South Carolina in 1990. Travel and related industries employed 172,000 people in South Carolina in 1990. The total attendance at all State attractions was more than 8.8 million people for that year.

In a 1991 Cable News Network-Gallup Poll, South Carolina tied with Colorado as the third leading summer vacations destination area, behind only Florida and California. The Charleston area was 21st among all North American areas visited and was 29th in visitors involved in the business or pleasure market. Charleston's proximity to the ocean accounted for many of its visitors. The State ranked second only to Florida as both beach- and golf-vacation destination.

Tourism is an \$800 million industry, employing 15,000 workers, in the Trident area (Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester Counties). The three-county area currently receives around 5 million visitors annually. On the basis of the number of inquiries and visitors (1,400 visitors per day) to the Charleston Visitor Center in 1992, forecasters predict attraction attendance in 1993 to exceed the record level (1,494,955 visitors) set in 1988. Charleston historical sites (excluding beaches and resorts) receive about 147,000 visitors per month from March through the end of August (1988 through 1991 averages). April and May are traditionally the busiest months, whereas January's visitation numbers are the least (32,500 visitors). Residents from North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and New York comprise 41 percent of all out-of-state visitors with the majority coming from east coast and Great Lakes states. Forty-seven percent of travelers to the Charleston area reported vacationing as the main purpose for visiting. Transportation, entertainment, recreation, and retail businesses are heavily supported by the tourism industry.

In 1990, 1,615,386 people visited historical homes and sites in South Carolina (a 9.7 percent increase over that of the previous year). Almost 63 percent of visitors to the Charleston area go to historical sites. This segment of the tourism market has had some of the largest percentage increases in visitation since 1984. Charleston and Dorchester Counties contain 73 pre-Revolutionary Structures, 136 late 18th-century structures, and more than 600 structures built before the 1940s. Those frequently visited include:

1. Aiken-Rhett House
2. Boone Hall
3. Charles Towne Landing
4. Drayton Hall
5. Edmonston-Alston House
6. Fort Sumter
7. Fort Moultrie
8. Gibbes Museum of Art
9. Heyward-Washington House
10. Joseph Manigault House
11. Middleton Place
12. Nathaniel Russell House
13. Charleston Museum
14. Patriots Point

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

INTRODUCTION

This section evaluates the impacts to visitors, natural resources, and cultural resources in implementing the plan. Affected resources at Charles Pinckney National Historic Site include the house at Snee Farm, barn, corn crib, caretaker's house, archaeological resources (known and yet to be discovered), remnants of the 20th-century and previous landscapes, and the designated wetlands. Areas outside the park include adjoining wetlands, remaining rural and agricultural landscapes, and Long Point Road.

IMPACTS

NATURAL RESOURCES

Fish and Wildlife

Minimal impact on fish and wildlife will occur in implementing the plan. The increased visitation will initially disturb some species and may force some wildlife to relocate. The construction of a new entrance, parking, trails, and any structure will result in the loss of some habitat. A temporary loss of habitat will occur during periods when open fields are being used for overflow parking. Establishing a vegetative buffer along the southern fence line will replace an open habitat with that of one providing an “edge” effect.

Threatened and Endangered Species

No known Federal or State threatened or endangered species will be affected as a result of actions under the plan.

Air Quality

A very minor increase in air pollution will occur since increased visitation by automobile is expected. An increase in vehicular fumes and dust will occur during construction as well. Over the long-term there will be no significant impact on air quality.

Irreversible or Irretrievable Commitment of Resources

Restoration and adaptive rehabilitation usually requires the removal of deteriorated materials that constitute original workmanship. These then have to be replaced with newer materials of similar quality, appearance, and workmanship. In some cases it may be necessary to use modern materials in order to meet construction and use regulations. As some structures require facilities for the disabled, minor structural changes will result in a minimal loss of historic fabric.

Geology and Soils

Under this plan, site development activities (entrance, parking area, access road to maintenance area, orientation shelter, rest rooms, walkway from parking to house, storage facilities, including the curatorial facility, and RV pad) will disturb the existing soil profile but enhance visitor circulation and provide access for physically disabled visitors. Approximately one acre of soil will be altered. Soils in areas designated for overflow parking could be compacted and rutted under continual usage.

Vegetation

As a result of the construction of a larger parking area, orientation shelter, curatorial facility, rest rooms, and trails, impacts on vegetation will occur. Approximately one acre

will be cleared. Areas presently in grass, will continue to be mowed periodically to keep them open. However, in areas designated to contain overflow parking during busier periods, the grass could be temporarily disturbed.

Floodplains

A trail to the edge of the marsh will go through a portion of the 100-year floodplain. According to NPS guidelines, the construction of the trail is exempt from compliance with Executive Order 11988, “Floodplain Management,” because the objective of the trail cannot be met unless constructed through the floodplain to the interpretive site.

Wetlands

In the plan, a trail through the floodplain and to the edge of the wetland will join a proposed boardwalk and small platform (100 square feet) in the wetland area. The design of the proposed facilities will minimize impacts to wetlands to the greatest extent practicable while still meeting project purposes. The construction of the trail, boardwalk, and platform in the wetland are exempted from compliance with Executive Order 11990 “Protection of Wetlands” under NPS guidelines.

The only possible impact would be if construction altered drainage patterns temporarily since most of the drainage is toward the wetlands. Runoff is not anticipated, however, given the sandy soil characteristics that lead to rapid absorption of surface water.

Prime and Unique Farmland

The only lands that qualify as “Prime Farmland” are located in the wetland area. The proposed trail and overlook-platform will have no effect on the use of these lands.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

House at Snee Farm

Adaptive measures to convert the house for administrative and visitor use will have a minimal adverse impact to this structure. Efforts will continue to preserve historic elements of the exterior and interior; conversion of rooms to administrative offices, display areas, and video centers will follow *The Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitation Historic Buildings*.

Minimal modifications to the rear exterior of the structure will make the house at Snee Farm accessible to mobility impaired visitors and employees. Efforts to minimize visual or structural impacts to the historic structure will be made through incorporating a design that is concealable. Only minimal interior changes will be needed.

Barn

The barn will be further adapted for limited maintenance and storage use. Improvements for security and function will be required. The character of the barn will not be affected by the possible construction of a flammable storage structure and RV pad, nearby.

Caretaker's House

The removal of the caretaker's house represents a loss of the 1930s historical period. However, efforts to preserve or adaptively use this structure are extensive and costly. The structure has been evaluated by a structural engineer and a historical architect and has been determined as unsafe.

Corn Crib

This structure will be preserved and reused adaptively. It will not have a formal use.

VISITOR USE AND EXPERIENCE

Visitors experiencing the site will have improved access due to the placement of signage and sidewalks and/or bike paths. the orientation shelter will provide interpretive media of the site as well as visitor comfort from the buggy conditions of the area. Rest room facilities will also be available near the orientation shelter.

Visitors will be able to learn more about Charles Pinckney, his contributions to society, Snee Farm, and the history of South Carolina through comprehensive displays, wayside exhibits, and trails. In the existing house, information and sales of related publications will be provided. In order to provide more information, rooms in the house will be used for museum exhibits and as a reading room.

In addition to the amenities listed above, the plan seeks active visitor participation that will be accomplished by concentrating on outreach programs, conducting further research on site and Pinckney related topics, and greater participation with volunteers, associations and organizations. These actions will result in linking the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site with other historical resources and reaching a larger audience. On-site programs and activities will draw larger crowds and change the visitor experience to one that is more directed, "hands on," and one that seeks active participation.

SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Although a larger number of visitors will be accommodated by the actions of this plan, little effect will occur on the socioeconomic environment

The plan seeks the active participation of the Friends of Historic Snee Farm and residents of the adjoining neighborhoods. The NPS seeks to be a good neighbor and allowances can be made so that the park grounds may be used for special events. This cooperative interaction between the park and community will build community support for the park.

TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC

The construction of sidewalks or bike paths along Long Point Road can improve nonvehicular and pedestrian access to Charles Pinckney National Historic Site. More automobile and bus traffic are expected on Long Point Road by increased visitation. To lessen noise and air pollution impacts to residents living near the parking area, dense vegetative screens will have to be maintained. A patrol of the bus parking area may be required to enforce an “engines off” policy while buses are parked on the site.

AESTHETIC RESOURCES

The rural character of the landscape is an essential component of the stories interpreted at Snee Farm. This plan will improve aesthetic resources both on and off site. By working with the county and city to implement visually sensitive guidelines for future development along Long Point Road the park will be able to provide long term protection for the rural character of the scenic road corridor. On site, a vegetative screen planted along the southern and southeastern fence line will hide the tennis courts, club house, and homes adjacent to park property.

The construction of a visitor parking area and administrative access to the maintenance area will keep the parking and access roads near the perimeter of the property and ensure that open spaces and landscaping near the house are not intruded upon. This arrangement minimizes visual impacts on the site while providing the safest access for visitation. Overflow parking in the field south of the parking area will lessen visual attributes for only brief periods.

UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

The plan will disturb about one acre of wooded area. Some slight increases in noise levels and automotive exhausts will occur in the residential areas adjacent to the park. These will be mitigated by the thick vegetative barrier along the park’s boundary. Removal of the caretaker’s house will be a cultural loss.

During construction 20th-century garden remnants will be salvaged when possible. Other adverse impacts include removal of the 1930s caretaker’s house will eliminate a feature of the 20th-century landscape.

STAFFING

A total of 10 to 12 staff including assistance from the Fort Sumter National Monument staff is needed under the plan.

COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS

In implementing the Charles Pinckney National Historic Site GMP, the NPS would comply with all applicable laws and executive orders, including those listed below. Informal consultation with appropriate Federal, State, and local agencies has been done in preparation of this document.

Natural Resource Compliance

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT OF 1969 (NEPA)

The Draft General Management Plan-Development Concept Plan-Environmental Assessment (GMP/DCP/EA) provides public disclosure for the planning and decision making process and the potential environmental consequences of actions and alternatives, as required by NEPA. Agency and public comments will be considered. The draft plan and environmental analysis will be reviewed in light of the comments. A final GMP/DCP/EA will be published and will respond, either individually or through summaries, to all substantive comments. After publication of the final plan and environmental assessment, a record of decision will be published to document the final decision and the alternatives considered, to identify the environmentally preferable alternative, and to describe whether all practicable means of avoiding environmental harm as a result of implementing the selected action have been adopted. At that time, the actions in the final plan will be implemented.

SECTION 7 OF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT OF 1973, AS AMENDED (16 USC 1531 ET SEQ.)

Section 7 requires all Federal agencies to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that any Federal action does not adversely affect the continued existence of listed species or critical habitat. Consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service has revealed that there are no known federally listed threatened or endangered species in the park. Thus, none of the alternatives identified in this general management plan would jeopardize any listed species or critical habitat. Further consultation would be carried out before construction to ensure that no newly listed species have been found on any of the sites.

SECTION 404 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT OF 1977 (33 USC)

This act directs the NPS to comply with state laws for water quality management and to meet certain water quality standards, regardless of jurisdictional status or land ownership. The U.S. Army Corp of Engineers will be contacted to determine the need for compliance with Section 404. The impact from the proposed facilities will be negligible.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 11988, "FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT"

All Federal agencies are required to avoid building in the 100-year floodplain unless no other practical alternative exists. A small flammable storage building (Alternatives one, Two, and Three), and a single RV trailer pad (Alternatives One, Two, and Three) are proposed to be installed near the barn, within the flood zone. This area is designated a maintenance zone and alternative locations are not practical. Therefore, these actions are exempted under NPS guidelines.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 11990, “PROTECTION OF WETLANDS”

This order required all federal agencies to avoid, where possible, impacts on wetlands. According to NPS guidelines, the proposed actions are exempted from compliance with the Order.

IMPACTS ON PRIME AND UNIQUE AGRICULTURAL LANDS IN IMPLEMENTING THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (45 FR 59189)

Federal agencies are required to analyze the impacts of Federal actions on agricultural lands, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. Soils classified as “Prime Farmland of State-Wide Importance” are located in a wetland area. These lands are not being used for agricultural production nor will they be converted for non-agricultural purposes.

CLEAN AIR ACT, AS AMENDED (42 USE 7401 ET SEQ.)

The Clean Air Act requires all Federal facilities to comply with existing Federal State, and local air pollution control laws and regulations. All in-park activities would be in compliance with the State Air Quality Implementation Plan.

Cultural Resource Compliance

The NPS is mandated to preserve and protect its cultural resources through the Act of August 25, 1916, and through specific legislation such as the Antiquities Act of 1906, the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and the National Historic Preservation Act. Cultural resources at the Charles Pinckney National Site would be managed in accordance with these acts and in accordance with Chapter V of the NPS Management Policies, the Cultural Resources Management Guideline (NPS-28), and other relevant policy directives. In addition to following these directives, the planning team consulted with the Southeast Regional Office’s Cultural Resources Planning Division, Office of Historical Architect, Regional Curator, Regional Historian, Regional Archeologist, South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, and others to evaluate the proposed development while supporting the protection and preservation of the identified cultural resources.

ARCHITECTURAL BARRIERS ACT OF 1968 (42 USC 4151 ET SEQ.);
REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 (29 USC 701 ET SEQ.); AND, AS APPROPRIATE,

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 (PUBLIC LAW 101-336, 104 STAT. 327)

These acts require all facilities and programs developed to be accessible to disabled visitors.

SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT OF 1966, AS AMENDED (16 USC 470, ET SEQ.)

Section 106 requires that Federal agencies having direct or indirect jurisdiction over actions take into account the effect of those actions on National Register properties and allow the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment. These actions must be done in accord with the programmatic agreement completed by the NPS, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Offices, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in 1990. In compliance with the programmatic agreement, this document will be sent to the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office for comment. The NPS has met with SHPO on several occasions and has received input into the preparation of the Alternatives. Further 106 consultation will be needed for actions affecting the house at Snee Farm, the corn crib, the caretaker's house, and the landscape in keeping with 36 CFR Part 800 and the 1990 Servicewide Programmatic Agreement.

AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTED

Federal Agencies

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Charleston Soil and Water Conservation District, Charleston, South Carolina

U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Charleston, South Carolina

National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

State Agencies

South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office, Columbia, South Carolina

South Carolina Coastal Council, North Charleston, South Carolina

University of South Carolina, Department of History, Columbia, South Carolina

South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources Department, James Island, South Carolina

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, Charleston, South Carolina

Local Agencies/Organizations

Friends of Historic Snee Farm

Historic Charleston Foundation

Charleston County Planning Office

South Carolina Historical Society

Town of Mount Pleasant Planning Department